

WHAT'S INSIDE

Reporting for duty ... back at Y-12	4
Early bird gets the worm Parking at a premium	5
Which way do I go? How to deal with holiday stress	5
Who's been naughty or nice?	6

Welcome home, Y-12 troops!



Protecting America's Future: Y-12's troops return safely home. See story on page 4.

Y-12 breaks ground

The Y-12 National Security Complex broke ground Dec. 1 on two state-of-the-art privately financed buildings that will enable Y-12 to vacate and tear down a large number of obsolete, 1940s-era facilities.

U.S. Reps. Zach Wamp, John J. Duncan Jr. and Lincoln Davis joined Steve Liedle, acting general manager of Y-12, and Bill Brumley, Y-12 site manager for the National Nuclear Security Administration, at the ceremony where dirt was symbolically dug.

The new buildings, the New Hope and Jack Case (production interface) facilities, will house nearly 1,500 employees. Total square footage for both buildings will be 550,000.

The buildings will include laboratory and conference space, a visitors center, occupational health center, badging office and public displays.

Jerry Paul, principal deputy administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration, said, "This facility is the cornerstone of the [Y-12] modernization [efforts]."

The project is expected to increase the tax revenue for Oak Ridge and Anderson county governments because the new buildings will be included in the local property tax base.

"The offices that will be built here ... truly represent the 'new hope' of the community," Liedle said.

Oak Ridge Mayor David Bradshaw declared Dec. 1, 2005, as "New Hope Building and Production Support Facility Day."

Wamp concluded, "This day represents renewal, reform and responsibility. We are renewing ourselves for the future. This is a great day for Tennessee."

Up to 3,000 construction-related jobs will be utilized over the course of the project.

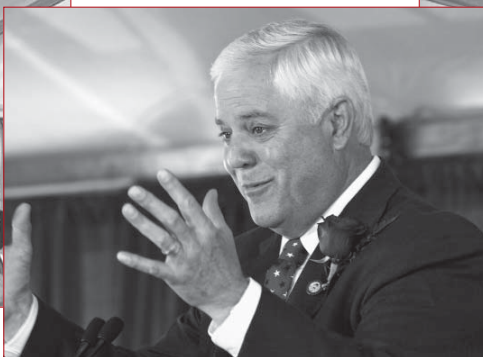
Construction is expected to last 18 to 20 months with occupancy to begin in mid-2007.



Y-12 leaders and government officials break ground for the new facilities.



U.S. Rep. John J. Duncan Jr. addresses the crowd, noting that Y-12 "is important to our country and the world."



U.S. Rep. Lincoln Davis said that the new administration and engineering buildings are "a continuation of what Y-12 has done."



The Oak Ridge High School Choral Ensemble performs at the ceremonial ground breaking.

Mentoring Program co-workers aid hurricane victims

Martha Foye and Sheri Somers know all about lending a helping hand. As part of the Mentoring Program, they're used to sharing their skills with others. The pair recently took the program's credo to heart and volunteered for a 10-day stint with the American Red Cross.

When Somers, a mentor and local American Red Cross member, asked Foye, a mentee, if she'd be interested in supporting the Appalachian Chapter of the American Red Cross in its Gulf Coast hurricane relief efforts, Foye didn't have to think twice about it. As Somers recalls, "Her only response was, 'What do I need to do, and when do they need us?'"

Before long, Foye and Somers, both of Planning and Integration, were headed to New Orleans to serve as case workers at a distribution center in New Orleans.

"When we first heard our assignment would be in the Big Easy ... well, we were pretty 'uneasy!'" said Somers. "But we never once felt threatened. People were so thankful."

Helping people was just part of their assignment; helping homeless pets was also a "heartbreaking" experience. "A fellow volunteer from Colorado and I bought bags of dog and cat food, cases of water and bowls," said Somers. "When we saw an animal that looked like a stray, we put out fresh food and water and called Animal Rescue with the location."



Sheri Somers, left, and Martha Foye review photos from their assignment in New Orleans to support hurricane relief efforts. To show the spirit of New Orleans, the pair wears beads purchased on Bourbon Street.

Now back at work, Somers and Foye have had time to reflect on their experience and what it meant to them. "I want to do more volunteer work—to consciously make an effort to become more involved in the work of the Red Cross," said Foye.

To volunteer with the Appalachian Chapter of the American Red Cross, call 483-5641.

5 new Black Belts join PPI

What's a good way to boost your value to the company? Become a Six Sigma Black Belt.

Kathy Gerth, Chris Murphy, Mike Ratledge, Paul Sooter and Tim Talley are the newest arrivals to Y-12's Productivity and Process Improvement group. They will spend part of the next four months in training classes to obtain their Black Belt certification.

Most of the new Black Belts get involved because they see opportunities to make improvements and want to hone their problem-solving and leadership skills. This group's time at Y-12 varies from three years to 30 years, and their backgrounds and experience cover a wide range.

They share an ability to think critically, an aptitude for analyzing data and good organization and people skills. "We have an academically strong, well-balanced and seasoned team," says Ratledge. "The mix of youth and experience gives us the energy and depth to be especially effective."

During training they'll be working on projects to reduce Y-12's administrative procedure cycle time, raise machining



Y-12's newest Black Belts are, from left, Mike Ratledge, Kathy Gerth, Tim Talley, Paul Sooter and Chris Murphy.

productivity, improve tooling design, increase operability of chemical processing equipment and lower overtime costs at the Oak Ridge Metrology Center.

The assignments in PPI extend for two years. These new Black Belts believe they'll have even better skills to offer when they transition back into the general plant population.

Y-12 puts new life into old weapons

Not since the Reagan administration was going toe-to-toe with the Soviet Union's "Evil Empire" has the Oak Ridge agenda included work on multiple nuclear weapon systems.

Nowadays there are no new weapons in production, but the Oak Ridge plant is making plans to build new parts for old ones: the air-dropped B-61 bomb and the W-76 warhead for Trident submarine-launched ballistic missiles.

The "life-extension programs" for old weapons are a big deal at Y-12.

Not only must the Oak Ridge plant perform work on two weapon systems at the same time, but there are also special challenges when building nukes in the 21st century.

Because there's a moratorium on testing nuclear weapons, the designs for replacement warheads must be based on computer models and data from previous tests conducted years ago.

—Condensed from *The Knoxville News-Sentinel*, Nov. 21, 2005



Parade!

Steve Liedle, acting general manager of Y-12, leads the group of Y-12 volunteers who participated in the Oak Ridge Christmas parade on Dec. 3. Y-12 volunteers handed out candy to the parade spectators.

Y-12 employees help hurricane survivors

There's no doubt the Y-12 National Security Complex is a part of the volunteer state. Since early September, a number of Y-12 employees have been helping the survivors of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Among the volunteers are Scott Chippendale of Quality Assurance, Ken Dyer of Projects, Kim Handy of Engineering, Bill Leinart of Safeguards and Security, Gary Brooks of the Fire Department, Paul Sharp of Maintenance and Josh Rogers of Analytical Chemistry.

The volunteers spent a week or longer working up to 12 hours each day. They came back with stories of unbelievable devastation and heartfelt thanks from people who had lost all their material possessions.

Some of the men had participated in previous hurricane cleanup efforts. All say they were grateful to be able to help and came home with a renewed appreciation for what they have.

—Condensed from *The Oak Ridger*, Nov. 9, 2005



BEST Building Everyone Safe Tomorrows

Congratulations to Construction!

It's a job well done for Construction's Behavior-Based Safety Steering Committee. Corporate Behavioral Science Technology Consultant Paul Angelo recently assisted the Construction organization at Y-12 with what is termed a "health check"—or determination of potential long-term success—of its BBS process.

This health check was accomplished through a BBS tool called the Sustainability Index. Construction was found to be

"... outstanding, with a tremendous foundation and a process that has proven itself in its safety record."

Although the report and certification are in progress, Angelo left process leader Joe Kato and facilitator Monica Lewis with words of praise for their committee's efforts: "... for a steering committee so new in the process, Construction received a very high score."



Kerry Templin visits with Iraqi children during his tour of duty.



Kerry Templin, Fire Protection Operations

Y-12 job: Firefighter for 16 years

U.S. Navy rank: Chief Petty Officer

Where stationed: Fallujah, Iraq, for four months and Al Asad, a former Iraqi months

U.S. Navy job: I served as a convoy escort as part of the Navy SeaBees, a navy personal security mainly to engineers supervising the rebuilding—schools, hospitals

Most challenging part of assignment: Dealing with the heat. We always would roll down windows in a vehicle. We could never get away from the heat. We would sweat up. It didn't really rattle me because I've dealt with situations like that as a firefighter.

Most rewarding part of assignment: Meeting kids in Fallujah

Missed most: Holding my wife in my arms

Favorite food missed: Soup beans and cornbread. I craved simple, home-cooked food.

Why I'm in the Navy Reserves: I have a personal obligation to serve my country.

There's no place like home

Monty Fritts, Manufacturing

First thing you wanted to do after you returned home: To get back to a normal, civilian routine

Most rewarding part of being a soldier: Being able to do my part to defend our way of life and set an example for my sons of not to armchair quarterback but to get involved. To take hold of life and do my part. Supporting my president was also important to me.

Where stationed: My home base in Iraq was about 25 miles from the Iranian border on the approximate latitude as Baghdad. My job as NCO for Combat Logistical Patrols in RSS 278 led me all over central Iraq. Baghdad, Kirkuk, Tikrit and Baqubah were common patrols.

Duties: We performed duties as convoy security, personal security detail and security support for other combat operations.

Hardest part: Absence from my wife, sons and family as well as my friends at work

Best thing about being home: I'm still weighing out that one.

Additional words: Thanks to all my friends at Y-12 for their prayers and support. I am convinced I had the best employer support of anyone I knew. From my friends at 9212 and in Behavior-Based Safety to the corporate level, I really just want to say thank you for making it a little easier to undertake this mission. I can't even count how many letters I received or kind acts my family experienced. I am so humbled by it. Thanks again, Y-12, and may God bless you all.

Fritts befriends an Iraqi girl who works in a brick factory. She and her family only know poverty and work, noted Fritts. "The stuffed animals, soccer balls and dolls were a luxury they do not know," Fritts said.

air base in Al Anbar Province, for the last two

val mobile construction battalion. I provided
hospitals and clinics—of Fallujah.

ore heavy equipment, and we were not allowed to
got used to the possibility of someone being blown
reman.

oked foods.

untry; it's just something I had to do.

me for the holidays!



From left to right are photos of some of Y-12's troops who have recently returned home. Far left is Staff Sergeant Dwayne Beaty of Manufacturing. Second from left is First Lieutenant Toby Williams (left) of Environment, Safety and Health with Staff Sergeant Monty Fritts of Manufacturing. Shown third from left are Lieutenant Colonel Carla Decker of Applied Technologies (left) and Monty Fritts of the 278th Regimental Combat Team. Far right is Sergeant Terry Long of Environment, Safety and Health. Several other returning soldiers were contacted for this story, but information was not received at press time. As their stories come in, they will be posted on YSource.



Where did I park my car?

You thought parking at the mall could be a challenge, right? Y-12 will now rank up there as we continue modernizing. We all will have to adjust to some changes, and one of those changes is parking.

During construction of the Jack Case and New Hope buildings, parking will be at a premium on the east end of Y-12. To support the loss of parking spaces, all spaces in the North Portal, Biology and East Portal parking lots will be used.

The North Portal shuttle service will be moved to the S-3 Parking Lot, where more than 200 spaces are not being used. Those employees who use the shuttle will now be picked up near the S-3 Lot and driven to Posts 1 and 10 just like before.

Because all east-end parking spaces are expected to be used, Facilities, Infrastructure and Services will continue to run the internal shuttles to assist those who may need to ride versus walk to their work areas. FI&S will continue to evaluate improvements based on actual conditions after these parking changes are in effect.

When completed, most of the space lost to construction activities will be returned, and a new lot will be constructed on the site of the former administration building.

Your patience and respect for your fellow workers will be greatly appreciated during this phase of revitalization.

Park-and-ride to work

Park your car in West Knoxville and ride to work. Sound too good to be true? Y-12 is working with Knoxville Area Transit, who will provide the service funded largely through a U.S. Department of Transportation grant, to make this a reality. Stay tuned to YSource for further information in January.

Drive into Y-12

You're joking, right? Not this time. To jump-start an increase in car/van pools, Y-12 will allow up to 20 vehicles to park inside the property protection area. A sign-up program is being developed; see YSource as details develop.

4 tips to reduce holiday stress

Holiday stress sets in when you try to do it all, so reassess and prioritize your lists. Stress is an emotional reaction to circumstances that you feel are out of control.

- **Delegate!**
Let each family member be responsible for a chore.
- **Don't give in to the "gimmies"**
"I want, I want!" This familiar phrase can wear parents (or yourself) down, but giving in to your child's every want can cause financial distress.
- **Be realistic about relatives**
When the in-laws visit this season, have realistic expectations for the short term. Don't try to solve past issues with family members over the holidays. And if going to a certain relative's house every year causes a lot of stress, decide if you really need to do it. Maybe you can go every other year instead.
- **Lighten up!**
Take it easy on yourself over the holidays. You're human like everyone else, and we all make mistakes.

TIPS!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



About 200 employees enjoyed the on-site holiday celebration hosted by the Y-12 Employees' Society on Dec. 6. YES also sponsored a similar event at the Knoxville Marriott on Dec. 8 where more than 2,000 employees and their family members celebrated the holiday season by sharing gift lists with Santa, visiting with co-workers and enjoying the festive atmosphere.

The Y-12 giving never ends as collection barrels were available for new toys, and cash donations were accepted for the Y-12 Angel Program. Kathryn 'Katy' Howard, the namesake of the Y-12 cookbook, *Katy's Kitchen: Y-12 Secret Recipes*, was also on hand to sign the 2005 cookbook addition. Proceeds of the addition go to the United Way.



NOVEMBER

35 Years

Engineering: Morgan Defenderfer and Larry W. Johnson

Facilities, Infrastructure and Services: Stephen R. McCarty, Norman L. Smith and Thomas R. Whitus Jr.

Manufacturing: Cas V. Cox, David G. Lefevers, Bruce A. Scott, Freddy G. Weaver and Allyn R. Wilson

Quality Assurance: Charles L. Manning

30 Years

Contracts and Special Initiatives:

William S. Kiser

Environment, Safety and Health: Patsy M. Shelton

Facilities, Infrastructure and Services:

Linda C. Caldwell, Albert L. Griffis, Danie G. McNair and Jacquita D. Wilson

Human Resources: Emily P. Nunn and Donna M. Stokes

Information and Materials Division:

Gene C. Davy and James L. Scruggs

Manufacturing: Kathlene Beatty, Jackie L. Green and Ronnie Prater

Quality Assurance: Gary C. Porter

25 Years

Campaigns: Robert B. Bonner

Environment, Safety and Health:

Bruce W. Valentine

Facilities, Infrastructure and Services:

Gary L. Bailey, Samuel M. Freshour Jr., Ronald D. Grant, Gerald E. Lewis, Lynda B.

Howard, Michael D. McCormack, Charles H. McDaniel II, Henry G. Mehlhorn, Stanley



T. Smith, David R. Stacy, Lerry Thompson, Bennie E. Williams and James N. Wyatt

Manufacturing: Larry J. Barrett, Fred E. Braden, Deborah A. Brock and Robert G. Graham

National Security Programs: Terryann Nelson

Safeguards and Security: Michael H. Isaacson and Cheryl M. Womack

20 Years

Campaigns: Samuel F. Lariviere

Contracts and Special Initiatives:

Willie L. Henley

Engineering: Frank J. Sweeney

Quality Assurance: Mary L. Moore

DECEMBER

54 Years

Engineering: Junious M. Turley

41 Years

Contracts and Special Initiatives:

Wesley D. Sims

40 Years

Facilities, Infrastructure and Services:

Glenn Bryson

30 Years

Environment, Safety and Health: Larry D. Jones

Facilities, Infrastructure and Services:

Timothy J. Grady and Wayne Tarver

Human Resources: Patricia S. Mitchell

Information and Materials Division:

Harriet E. Mitchell

Manufacturing: Lynn D. Cherry and Dwight W. Porter

Projects: Andrew N. Herron

Quality Assurance: Ellen S. Carlton and Thomas D. Wilson

25 Years

Contracts and Special Initiatives:

Michael A. Bell and James S. Payne

Engineering: Larry W. Baker

Facilities, Infrastructure and Services:

Kathleen B. Cole, Elbert H. Cooper Jr., Henry C. King and Alice E. McMillan

Manufacturing: Darrell M. Carlton,

Charles K. Collier, Jerry L. Greene,

Dennis E. Hackworth, Terri H. Hall,

Larry D. Pentecost, Janice C. Schabot,

Francis E. Shirley, Charles E. Sloan,

Maudine O. Sloan and Karen J. Turnbull

Quality Assurance: Edward L. Stooksbury

Safeguards and Security: Robert G.

Winkle Jr.

20 Years

Contracts and Special Initiatives:

Robert C. Painter Jr.

Facilities, Infrastructure and Services:

Robert D. Everette

Manufacturing: Gregory L. Baker,

Rodger D. Caruthers and Connie J. Wicker

Y-12 knows its 'ABCs'

"ABC—easy as 1, 2, 3 ...," or so the song goes. Y-12 and its employees once again used their ABCs—aluminum beverage cans, that is—to contribute to six area charitable organizations.

At the ceremony held recently, Deputy General Manager Darrel Kohlhorst presented \$200 checks to the organizations. These organizations serve East Tennesseans in many ways—from providing clothing and emotional support to providing fire and other emergency services.

In his presentation of the checks, Kohlhorst described the Y-12 family as "... a very generous group of people—we want to do our part to make our neighbors as comfortable as possible."

Since the program began, \$69,800 has been funneled back into our communities.

Most recent organizations benefiting from the ABC Program

- Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry of Roane County
- John B. Jordan Inner-City Community Enrichment Center of Knoxville
- Center of Hope in Knoxville
- Oak Ridge's Ecumenical Storehouse
- Year-Round Santas in Mascot
- South Roane County Volunteer Fire Department in Kingston

Department on 'fire' with improvements

Where there's smoke, there's fire ... or, at Y-12, some extremely hard-working firefighters.

Hard work has enabled Y-12's Fire Department to meet 98 percent of its performance incentive measures for the last four years, while maintaining the lowest fire loss (less than \$1,000) in the U.S. Department of Energy Complex.

These distinctions are a testament to some proactive planning, and the new uniforms are just one example. The existing uniform was showing signs of wear, and personnel transporting patients were often mistaken for hospital staff. When the need for a change was determined, the team evaluating options considered Y-12-specific factors, such as the use of rank patches instead of pins to facilitate clearing the metal detectors.

According to Captain David Fahey, while performing an exhaustive search of uniform manufacturers and considering laundering needs, they learned of a unique rental program. Aramark, an international

uniform and career apparel service, offers rent and lease options in addition to direct purchase. Fahey noted that this program saves Y-12 money in many ways. The company does not have to purchase or store the uniforms, and worn or ill-fitting uniforms are simply switched out at no cost.

The new uniforms are only one example of many improvements over the last 12 months.

Additional changes include full automation of the test, maintenance and inspection program; a new decontamination tent and deployment of larger self-contained breathing apparatus tanks.

Future improvements include implementing a wide-area radio system, which will significantly improve radio communi-



Darrel Kohlhorst, deputy general manager (second from right) presents firefighter Donald McGuire (second from left) with his new uniform. They are joined by J. R. Russell (left) in one of the new uniforms and David Fahey.

cations, and developing specifications for the planned purchase of a new pumper truck—designed by one of the department's own.

From choosing new uniforms to designing an ideal fire engine, Y-12's fire-fighting professionals work proactively to ensure the Complex's safety.

BWXTymes

Volume 5, No. 8

December 2005

P. O. Box 2009

Oak Ridge, TN 37831-8245

Melissa Leinart, editor

865-574-1621 (6ml)

Bldg. 9109, MS 8245, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831

Other contributors:

Amy Bush

Kathy Fahey

Lisa Harris

Kathryn King-Jones

Jamie Loveday

Brett Pate

Sherry Smyrl

Heidi Spurling

Kathie Stephens

Mike Watkins

Donna Watson

PRSRT
STD
PAID
U. S. Postage

Permit #36
Powell, TN